

Serial No. 10/053,667

Attorney Docket No. 11-078

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-17 (Canceled)

18. (Currently amended) An information providing system for ~~providing an information package containing purchased information from an information vendor to a user who has an information consuming device, wherein the information package includes a plurality of information parts, and wherein the information package is in a condition for use by the user after the user pays for the whole information package and installs the information package on the information consuming device, comprising:~~

preparing means for preparing an information package containing a plurality of contents;

supplying means for supplying the information package from an information vendor to a user who has an information consuming device and has paid for all of the plurality of contents contained in the information package in a condition where the user is allowed to use any of the contents after the user installs the information package on the information consuming device;

identifying means for identifying ~~actually unused parts or an unused part of the purchased information~~ unused content that has never been used by the user among the plurality of the contents; and

refunding means for processing a refund payment to the user for the ~~actually unused parts or unused part to the user~~ unused content.

19. (Currently amended) The information providing system according to claim 18, further ~~comprising~~ comprising:

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determining means for determining whether or not the user has accepted the refund payment for the unused content; and

~~setting means for setting the actually unused part or unused parts that is identified by the identifying means and for which a refund payment has been accepted by the user through the refund processing means as information that is prohibited from being used~~means for designating the unused content as refused content, which the user is prohibited from using after the determining means has determined that the user accepted the refund payment for the unused content.

20. (Currently amended) The information providing system according to claim 19, wherein the information consuming device comprises a payment calculating means for calculating an amount of the refund payment that is paid from the information vendor to the user through the ~~refund processing~~ refunding means.

21. (Currently amended) The information providing system according to claim 18, wherein

the information consuming device is located in a vehicle, and

the information package is a road map, which corresponds to an area, and the road map is divided into a plurality of zones zone maps, which correspond to ~~the parts~~ a plurality of zones within the area, and the information package includes a plurality of the zone maps,

each of the zone maps is one of the contents.

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22. (Currently amended) The information providing system according to claim 21, wherein the refund payment is a function of the number of the ~~zones of the road map~~ zone maps that have not been used by the user.

23. (Previously presented) The information providing system according to claim 22, wherein the information consuming device communicates with the information vendor via wireless communication.

24. (Currently amended) A method of providing an information package containing ~~purchased information from an information vendor to an user who has an information consuming device, wherein the information package includes a plurality of parts, and wherein the information package is set to be in a condition for use after the user pays for the whole information package and installs the information package on the information consuming device,~~ comprising:

preparing the information package, which contains a plurality of contents;

supplying the information package from an information vendor to a user who has an information consuming device and has paid for all of the contents contained in the information package in a condition where the user is allowed to use any of the contents after the user installs the information package on the information consuming device;

identifying actually unused parts or an unused part contents of the purchased information package; and

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processing a refund payment to the user for the actually-unused contents~~parts or part to the user.~~

25. (Currently amended) The ~~information providing method~~ according to claim 23, further ~~comprising~~ comprising:

determining whether or not the user has accepted the refund payment for the unused content; and

~~setting the actually-unused part or unused parts, which are identified in the identifying step and for which a refund payment has been accepted by the user through the refund processing step, as information that is prohibited from being used~~designating the unused content as refused content, which the user is prohibited from using if it is determined that the user has accepted the refund payment for the unused content.

26. (Currently amended) The ~~information providing method~~ according to claim 24, further comprising calculating an amount of the refund payment which is paid from the information vendor to the user.

27. (Currently amended) The ~~information providing method~~ according to claim 23, further comprising providing the information consuming device in a vehicle, wherein the information package is a road map, which corresponds to an area, and the road map is divided into a plurality of zones~~zone maps~~, which correspond to the partsa plurality of zones within the area, and each of the zone maps is one of the contents.